Flea Beetle Damage on Canola

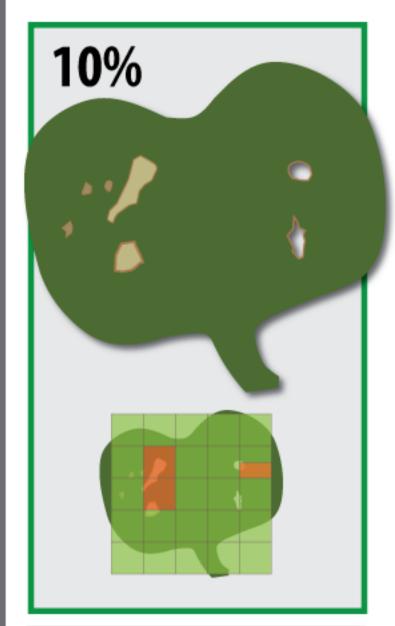
Scout for flea beetle damage in several places throughout the field, including field edges, hedgerows, and bluffs, ideally at five points, in a "W" pattern, checking 10 plants at each point (to get a representative sample).



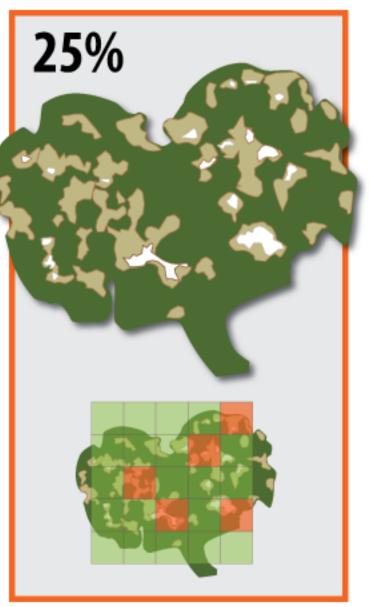
2.5 mm 0.1"



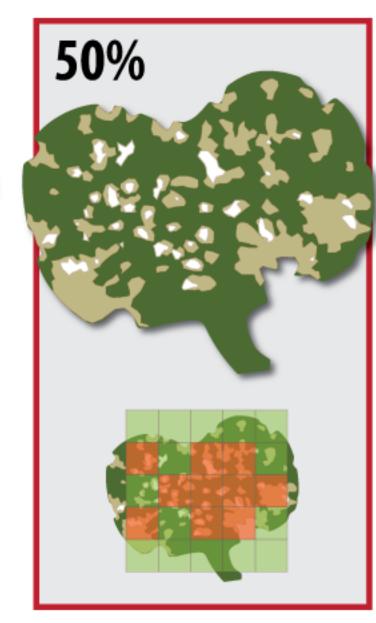
Striped Flea Beetle







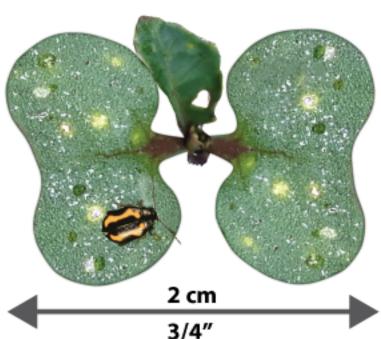






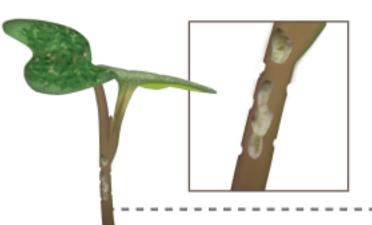


Feeding damage is less of a concern with moderate temperatures, good soil moisture and an adequate plant stand, but it becomes a greater concern with lower plant stands, lower moisture and higher temperatures.



25% is the action threshold

When approaching the 25% action threshold (nominal economic threshold) consider applying foliar insecticide if prior to the four-leaf stage with actively feeding flea beetles (evidence of fresh feeding wounds and/or damage to newly-emerged leaves) to prevent reaching levels anticipated to cause economic injury (50%).



Stem Feeding

Include the inspection of stems and petioles when flea beetle scouting. No specific threshold exists to evaluate the impact of stem feeding, but due to the function of the stem (supplying water to the leaves) and its fragility when young, stem feeding can be more damaging than leaf defoliation and even cause plant fatality (especially under hot and dry conditions).